

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A wide bandwidth phase-lock loop circuit, comprising:
 - a frequency detector arranged to measure an input signal of unknown frequency to detect frequency information of the input signal, the input signal being variable in frequency over a plurality of predetermined frequency ranges;
 - a frequency range selector connected to the frequency detector;
 - a phase-locked loop connected to the frequency range selector and capable of phase-locking with the input signal when configured to do so for each of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges, wherein the frequency range selector automatically determines the frequency range for the input signal and configures the phase-locked loop to generate an output signal within one of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges based on the frequency information of the input signal, said wide bandwidth phase-lock loop circuit being operable for phase-locking to said input signal without use of a sweep generator circuit to produce a sawtooth signal for sweeping a voltage controlled oscillator through a frequency band around an estimated frequency of said input signal.
2. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 1, wherein the frequency range selector automatically determines the frequency range based on a comparison of the frequency information of the input signal to a plurality of predetermined and fixed values.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit of claim 1,~~ A wide bandwidth phase-lock loop circuit, comprising:

a frequency detector arranged to measure an input signal of unknown frequency to detect frequency information of the input signal, the input signal being variable in frequency over a plurality of predetermined frequency ranges;

a frequency range selector connected to the frequency detector;
a phase-locked loop connected to the frequency range selector and capable of phase-locking with the input signal when configured to do so for each of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges, wherein the frequency range selector automatically determines the frequency range for the input signal and configures the phase-locked loop to generate an output signal within one of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges based on the frequency information of the input signal, wherein the frequency range selector employs frequency range hysteresis whereby the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges are overlapping and the frequency range selector does not reconfigure the phase-locked loop to change frequency ranges when frequencies of the input signal are in overlapping frequency ranges.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit of claim 1,~~ A wide bandwidth phase-lock loop circuit, comprising:

a frequency detector arranged to measure an input signal of unknown frequency to detect frequency information of the input signal, the input signal being variable in

frequency over a plurality of predetermined frequency ranges;

_____ a frequency range selector connected to the frequency detector;

a phase-locked loop connected to the frequency range selector and capable of phase-
locking with the input signal when configured to do so for each of the plurality of
predetermined frequency ranges, wherein the frequency range selector automatically
determines the frequency range for the input signal and configures the phase-locked loop
to generate an output signal within one of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges
based on the frequency information of the input signal, wherein the frequency detector
comprises a zero-crossing synchronizer that synchronizes the input signal to a
predetermined and fixed rate clock signal to detect frequency information of the input
signal.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit of claim 1,~~ A wide bandwidth phase-lock loop
circuit, comprising:

a frequency detector arranged to measure an input signal of unknown frequency to
detect frequency information of the input signal, the input signal being variable in
frequency over a plurality of predetermined frequency ranges;

_____ a frequency range selector connected to the frequency detector;

a phase-locked loop connected to the frequency range selector and capable of phase-
locking with the input signal when configured to do so for each of the plurality of
predetermined frequency ranges, wherein the frequency range selector automatically
determines the frequency range for the input signal and configures the phase-locked loop

to generate an output signal within one of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges

based on the frequency information of the input signal, wherein the frequency detector comprises a zero-crossing counter that counts zero-crossings of the input signal, the zero-crossing counting further comprising logic circuitry timed by a pre-determined fixed-rate clock signal with a clock frequency higher than the input signal, the logic circuitry being operable to prevent two zero-crossing counts being made during a single cycle of the input signal caused by degradation of the input signal.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit of claim 1,~~ A wide bandwidth phase-lock loop circuit, comprising:

a frequency detector arranged to measure an input signal of unknown frequency to detect frequency information of the input signal, the input signal being variable in frequency over a plurality of predetermined frequency ranges;

a frequency range selector connected to the frequency detector;
a phase-locked loop connected to the frequency range selector and capable of phase-locking with the input signal when configured to do so for each of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges, wherein the frequency range selector automatically determines the frequency range for the input signal and configures the phase-locked loop to generate an output signal within one of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges based on the frequency information of the input signal, wherein the frequency range selector comprises a range detector that is pre-programmed for automatically comparing the frequency information with pre-determined values and a presently set frequency

range for detecting which one of the plurality of predetermined frequency ranges is an appropriate frequency range based on the frequency information of the input signal.

7. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 6, wherein the frequency range selector further comprises a range selector programmed for confirming that at least two consecutive detections are in the same frequency range prior to changing the frequency range.
8. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 1, further comprising a voltage comparator for comparison with the input signal and connected to the frequency detector and adapted to condition a wave form of the input signal.
9. (Previously Amended) A method of phase locking an input signal having a wide range of frequencies, comprising:
 - measuring frequency information of the input signal;
 - selecting one out of a plurality of frequency ranges based on the frequency information obtained by said step of measuring;
 - generating an output signal by phase-locking to the input signal within the selected frequency range; and
 - confirming the selected frequency range by comparing results of at least two of said steps of measuring prior to changing the selected frequency range.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising dividing a frequency of the output signal.

11. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising employing frequency range hysteresis whereby the plurality of frequency ranges are overlapping and the frequency range selector does not reconfigure the phase-locked loop to change frequency ranges when frequencies of the input signal are in overlapping frequency ranges.

12. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of measuring frequency information of the input signal further comprises timing the input signal with respect to a known clock signal having a frequency higher than the input signal to thereby prevent one cycle of the input signal being counted more than once due to degradation of the input signal.

13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising synchronizing the input signal to a previously known clock signal with a frequency higher than the input signal.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising counting zero-crossings of the input signal.

15. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising conditioning a wave form of the input signal.

16. (Previously Amended) A phase-lock loop circuit having a wide bandwidth, comprising:

means for measuring frequency information of an input signal;

means for selecting one out of a plurality of frequency ranges based on a comparison of the measured frequency information of the input signal with at least one of a plurality of pre-determined and fixed values; and

means for phase-locking to said input signal to thereby generate an output signal in the selected frequency range.

17. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 16 wherein said means for phase-locking further comprises an integrated circuit operable over a plurality of frequency ranges wherein a particular frequency range is selected utilizing a plurality of frequency range pin connections on said integrated circuit.

18. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 16, wherein the means for selecting employs frequency range hysteresis whereby the plurality of frequency ranges are overlapping and the frequency range selector does not reconfigure the phase-locked loop to change frequency ranges when frequencies of the input signal are in overlapping frequency ranges.

19. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 16, wherein the means for selecting confirms the selected frequency range based on a currently selected frequency range which may or may not be the selected frequency range.

20. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 16, wherein the means for measuring synchronizes the input signal to a previously known clock signal with a frequency higher than the input signal.

21. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 16, wherein the means for measuring counts zero-crossings of the input signal.

22. (Previously Amended) The circuit of claim 16, further comprising means for conditioning a wave form of the input signal by comparing the input signal to a voltage comparator.

23. (Original) A wide bandwidth phase-lock loop circuit, comprising:
a frequency detector arranged to detect frequency information for an input signal, the frequency detector having a zero-crossing synchronizer for synchronizing the input signal to a clock signal and a zero-crossing counter for counting zero-crossings of the input signal;

a frequency range selector connected to the frequency detector and having a range

detector and a range selector, wherein the range detector detects which one of a plurality of frequency ranges is an appropriate frequency range based on the frequency information of the input signal, and wherein the range selector confirms the frequency range detected by the range detector;

a phase-locked loop connected to the frequency range selector and configured by the frequency range selector to generate an output signal in the frequency range detected by the range detector, wherein the frequency range selector employs frequency range hysteresis;

a divider for dividing a frequency of the output signal; and

a voltage comparator for conditioning a waveform of the input signal.